

Remarks

Claims 24-28 and 34 are pending. Claims 16-23 and 29-33 have been canceled to expedite prosecution. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully solicited.

The claims pertain to transfers which contain a fusible polymer ink, the ink pattern of which is prepared by an ink jet printer. The transfers are devoid of fusible polymers, and in preferred embodiments, *i.e.*, claim 33, are prepared on plain "copy" paper with no release coating.

should be 34

The claims have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over *Kronzer*, U.S. Patent No. 4,863,781 ("*Kronzer*"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Kronzer is directed to an improvement in conventional vinyl transfers where a relatively thick layer of vinyl is printed by conventional printing techniques such as rotary screen printing. The transfer is then applied in a heated press to a substrate, for example, a garment. The improvement of *Kronzer* is to employ a fusible "conformable" polymer layer which allows better transfer to uneven articles. A release coat is also used. The conformable polymer layer is clearly fusible, as it is applied from the melt or as an extruded film as indicated at column 5, lines 25-28, and will, when heated "soften and flow", column 5, lines 29-30.

The present transfers are devoid of fusible polymer other than the polymer ink, and are thus clearly distinguished from the transfers of *Kronzer*. Moreover, with respect to claim 34, which has no release coating, the transfers of *Kronzer* contain a mandatory release coating. The transfers of *Kronzer*, containing a fusible conforming layer, clearly do not anticipate the subject invention claims, which prohibit such a layer. Withdrawal of the rejection over *Kronzer* is solicited.

Applicant submits that the claims are now in condition for Allowance, and respectfully request a Notice to that effect. If it is believed that further discussion will advance the prosecution of the Application, the Examiner is highly encouraged to telephone Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

KYLE GLENN CROSS

By 
William G. Conger
Reg. No. 31,209
Attorney for Applicant

Date: August 26, 2003

BROOKS KUSHMAN P.C.
1000 Town Center, 22nd Floor
Southfield, MI 48075-1238
Phone: 248-358-4400
Fax: 248-358-3351